

Asheville Parks and Recreation Department

**Asheville Greenways Master Plan Addendum – July 2005
Prepared and Approved by the Asheville Greenway Commission**

The following text is added to the Master Plan, in the “System Recommendations” chapter:

M. Asheland Ave./McDowell St. (p. 67)

A new greenway route is proposed in addition to the on-street greenway along Asheland Avenue and McDowell Street. At a few points, it converges with this on-street greenway. This new greenway provides a connection from downtown to the hospital area, Asheville High and Asheville-Buncombe Technical College (A-B Tech). The proposed path begins near the downtown bus station between Asheland Avenue and Coxe Street. It follows Federal Alley south until the alley turns east. From there it connects to an existing road grade that reaches Southside Avenue, and from there travels on-street to the intersection of Asheland Avenue/McDowell Street with Southside Avenue/Phifer Street.

The route crosses that intersection onto Phifer Street, then turns south to run between two commercial properties to reach City property along Old Asheland Avenue. From there it crosses Choctaw to enter City property, Choctaw Street Park. There is a variety of options within Choctaw Street Park. There will be a major spur here that continues west through the park, roughly following the creek and Ralph Street. This spur will connect to Depot Street.

The main route will turn south again, traveling between Beech Hill Street and Herman Street to reach Livingston Avenue. The route will travel up Livingston Street (which is a wide street, with city property (Housing Authority) on the south side). The route may then go behind a nursing home that faces Victoria Road to reach the older portion of the A-B Tech property.

Once the route reaches the A-B Tech property, it begins branching. There are many options for travel across the A-B Tech property. Much of the way can be along existing road grades or quiet parking lots. The route should have some opportunity for a view north to the city, and should have lots of travel through mature trees. A connection will reach Asheville High School, possibly near the school’s north entrance. A connection will reach Mission Hospital, probably touching the northwest corner of the hospital’s property. The greenway will facilitate the movement of students between these three campuses.

On the A-B Tech property, the route turns west and connects the old portion of the campus with the newer portion north of Victoria Road. It curves around campus buildings and crosses Victoria Road to connect to the portion of campus south of Victoria Road.

From this portion of campus, the trail parallels the west side of Asheville High School’s property, near the football field, and reaches the intersection of McDowell Street and Short McDowell Street. The route ends here, but users may travel down Short McDowell to reach

Meadow Road, Biltmore Village and the Swannanoa River Greenway, or cross McDowell to Grindstaff Street and quiet community streets that connect to Biltmore Avenue and Kenilworth.

Neighborhood Greenway Connectors (p. 69)

The following greenway corridor is added to the list of potential neighborhood connectors:

- In the Montford neighborhood, a trailhead will exit from the new Chamber of Commerce parking lot next to the Kipp Academy (old Randolph School), cross Gudger Street and follow the [perennial] creek that borders Isaac Dickson School's property and follows the MSD easement to Courtland Avenue just before it empties into Hill Street. At this point, bike lanes will be painted on Hill Street to connect to the bike lanes on Riverside Drive.